LISTING OF CLAIMS

The claim listing below replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system comprising:

a container for an electrolyte arranged such that electrolyte contained therein forms an electrical circuit;

a commutator comprising a pair of input electrodes which are arranged to be immersible in electrolyte contained within the container and further arranged to receive an AC electrical signal at said pair of input electrodes, and to convert said AC electrical signal to a DC signal at two points in the same electrolyte;

a controller for controlling movement of said commutator and a waveform of said applied AC voltage such that said movement of the commutator and said waveform of said applied AC voltage have a predetermined relationship; and

a set of working electrodes arranged to be immersed in the electrolyte contained in the container and further arranged to pass a current therebetween.

2. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 1 in which the system comprises a pump arranged to pump electrolyte through the system.

3. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 1 in which the container comprises a series of interconnected tubes.

4. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 3 in which the ratio of the length of each tube to their cross-sectional area is as large as possible.

5. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 1 in which the controller is arranged to generate a signal which is used to control the waveform of the AC signal so that it is synchronous with the movement of the commutator.

6. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 2 in which said DC signal comprising a positive DC voltage, which forms a "+ve virtual electrode" and a

negative DC voltage, which forms a "-ve virtual electrode", the system being further arranged such that said DC signal is applied across the working electrodes and further such that said pump is used to produce a steady flow of electrolyte from said +ve virtual electrode to said –ve virtual electrode and from said -ve virtual electrode to said +ve virtual electrode.

7. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 6 in which flow of electrolyte from the working electrodes are combined at the input of the pump.

8. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 1 in which said working electrodes comprise a gas porous membrane.

9. (Previously presented) An electrolytic system as claimed in claim 1 in which said working electrodes are arranged such that an ionic species within an electrolyte contained within the container can be connected at the working electrodes such that the resulting faradaic current flowing in the electrolyte flows in the same direction as the flow of electrolyte within the container.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently amended) A method of plating a component comprising:

providing a commutator arranged to allow a fluid to pass therethrough;

~~assing~~passing a fluid through said commutator applying an AC voltage to the fluid on a first side of the commutator;

providing a controller arranged to control said AC voltage such that it has a predetermined relationship to movement of said commutator so as to generate a DC voltage in the fluid on a second side of said commutator;[[and]]

providing a pair of working electrodes immersed in the fluid and situating the component therebetween; and

applying said DC voltage to said pair of working electrodes such that an electrochemical reaction is initiated therebetween with said electrochemical reaction causing the component to be plated.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).